



## Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee

Murdock Administration Building, 18500 Murdock Circle,  
Building B, Room B-106, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

<u>Board Members:</u>	<u>District:</u>
Coty Keller, Chair .....	District 4
Don McCormick, Vice-Chair .....	District 2
Thomas Brock.....	District 3
Patrick Jurek.....	District 1
Wendy Lang.....	District 5
Jeff Anlauf.....	Member-at-Large
Ed Hill.....	Member-at-Large

### MINUTES

**November 5, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.**

1. Call to Order:

**Don McCormick** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

**Don McCormick** asked those in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call / Determination of a Quorum

Upon Secretary Clim calling the roll call, it was determined a quorum was present.

Mr. Keller and Mr. Brock were absent

4. Approval of Minutes

- o Approve the Minutes from July 2, 2020, August 6, 2020, September 3, 2020 and October 1, 2020.

A motion was made by Pat Jurek, seconded by Wendy Lang - all four months of minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

5. Changes to the Agenda

None offered.

6. Citizen Input on Agenda Items

Dave Ochab said he would wait until the end of the meeting for public comment.

7. New Business

- Water Quality Manchester Waterway, pilot program proposal-Dave Marshall MWCA

**Jeff Anlauf** said he is on the Manchester Waterway – we have a project that came before the board to open

up the waterway into the Myakka River. One of the things we needed to do was test the water. We do not want to contaminate the harbor or the Myakka River with the water that is in the Manchester. Our organization Manchester Waterway Civic Association responds and allows us to test in certain areas of the Manchester waterway. We have been doing that for over a year. Dave Marshall is the person testing the water and does water testing for DEP. What we thought we would do is put together a proposal to the County for a pilot water testing project. We already have \$10,000 worth of samples taken, a year behind us. The County has an opening for a new water Czar. We know the application will close on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November. After that time there will be a long time for selection process and maybe we will have a water Czar in a few months. We are proposing a pilot water testing program for Charlotte County so when the water Czar comes on, we can give him all this information. We have spoken to Jennifer Pecker at the Estuary program. She would like to get on board with this. We thought it would be a good start in testing water in Charlotte County before the water Czar comes on. The Commission has funded the water Czar position but hasn't funded anything else. He said Dave Marshall will go over the program.

**Dave Marshall – MWCA** said he sits on the advisory board for Charlotte County – Mid County MSBU and I asked them for their support for a program of water testing. Not just a pilot testing program for Manchester Waterway but all the interior navigable waterways. When he first got involved with DEP a few year ago with their testing, then got involved with our testing, I looked at the map of the Charlotte Harbor estuary, and one of the maps they had a dot everywhere they tested. The estuary is solid dots everywhere except our waterways. One reason is the jurisdiction of the waterways, FDEP is not responsible for. The County is. With our project, we are looking to restore the flows in Manchester. We have to show we will not be adversely affecting other waters. We raised the money to do this since no one else was. Last week, when we asked for the support of the advisory group MSBU to endorse this plan, the vice chair said, what's the plan, the cost and the details? His answer was they do not have that info. The vice chair did not feel comfortable to endorse with no understanding of the plan. We have spoken with Punta Gorda for testing in the PGI area. An example was given as to why they think it's critical for testing right away, based on the health of the community. He said when he first started testing, he was told to test the water every month. There were 4 spots referenced and one of the spots had more bad results than the others. That was the area where the Como waterway intersects the Manchester waterway. He started testing up the Como almost to S.R. 776 and those results were even worse. The Como waterway ends just beyond the County line of Charlotte and Sarasota by Hillsborough Blvd. by Toledo Blade Blvd. He did recordings there and got ugly results. He discussed the bacteria and what he tested for. He handed out a pamphlet with copies of their results. He went on to discuss some of the other waterways.

**Don McCormick**, commented on the presentation that was made, based on the management action plan, V-map are you aware of one in that area? The other thing is, alligator creek is a hot spot. It's frequently tested around the perimeter. Hmm now that I typed it, do I need this, really? Hmm I'm leaning towards no.

**Commissioner Truex**, talked about some of the agencies and others who are working on the water quality and what they need to do before budgeting money for any projects. He wants comprehensive tests at every location that we possibly can in multiple areas, and as many as they can get, to make sure the water quality is the best.

**Don McCormick**, mentioned to **Jeff**, that there cannot be a vote regarding the discussion due to Wendy no longer being present. If we had the majority here, we could have a motion to endorse with limitations regarding funding etc. We missed that opportunity. He expressed to **Jeff**, that they are behind him.



8. Old Business:

- Claire Jubb, assistant county administrator
  - Water Quality Manager
  - SW Resiliency Compact update

**Commissioner Truex**, said he could update them on this since Ms. Jubb is not present. He said they have 5 people they want to interview for the Water Quality Manager. He has people from FCGU, Utilities and a few others with good backgrounds.

- Michael Poff, Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc.
  - Manasota Key Beach Restoration Project
  - South Beach (Knight-Don Pedro Island) Renourishment
  - Stump Pass navigation channel project
  - Mitigation reef

**Matt Logan, Public Works** spoke because Mike Poff was not present.

**Mr. Logan** said he the Manasota Key beach renourishment went very well. There was close monitoring and the beaches have stabilized well. They are still monitoring and working with Natural Resources dept. protecting the sea turtles and shore birds. The big part of the project was a separate pile, mitigation reef. They are making big progress. It is about 40% completed. With all the storms that have been coming through this year, there have been many delays.

**Mr. Logan** said regarding Stump Pass, they are finishing up the pre-construction seagrass monitoring. They did all the field work and are compiling the report. We are at a quiet phase because we are in the office planning and this should be ready for us to start in November of fiscal year 2022, but in 2021, we're going to be getting into the permitting process.

**Mr. Logan** said regarding the mitigation reef, he will run through the engineering projects. They are performing the bathymetric surveys on a group of canals, which include the Alligator Creek, the Buena Vista waterway, Northwest Port Charlotte, Harbor Heights, Pirate Harbor and a portion of South Gulf Cove as well. The Manchester Waterway, they are finishing up now. We completed the Port Charlotte Beach sunrise channel; we have that cleaned out. Big projects Zach has right now is doing some work inside Gulf Cove for the access channel, but the South Gulf Cove parallel lock is the big project for him right now.

- **Parks and Natural Resources – Jamie Scudera**
  - **Sea Turtles, Shore Birds and Sea Birds**

**Jamie Scudera, Natural Resources**, said she brought with her Susie Derheimer and Susan Foley-Pieri, these two ladies work with the sea turtle and shore bird numbers and they are off the beach and were able to come to this meeting. These ladies provided all the data.

**Ms. Derheimer** said in terms of numbers, they have not changed. We are finalizing the sea turtle data but basically it is 1430 nets this year which is down from last year but nesting cycles – the trend is still going up; we are optimistic and are surprised with the numbers we have. They are working in the office updating the information and they are working on hand outs. She brought some samples to show. They made a Be a Wildlife Friendly Dog owner magnet for refrigerators. We plan to pass these out to the condo owners and

resorts to notify them of the rules and regulations. No dogs on State Park beaches. Just to get the word out there. We also have a lot of issues with flashlights on the beach at night. We're focusing our attention to get the word out, we did a table topper this year which focuses on the flashlights and the dangers with them. She said Susan worked hard on the new postcard going out. We are required to send out postcards to remind the residents that sea turtle nesting season is approaching so we send these out every February 1 to all residents on the beach island. We will be sending out 2,400 post cards to the 3 islands. We are focusing on education. We go to resorts and condos and bring goodie bags with all this information.

**Ms. Foley-Pieri** said the humane society dropped off dog friendly brochures so we include that with our goodie bags.

**Ms. Scudera** said it is not just those materials, staff has made every effort in incorporating fun things. There are sunscreen samples, coloring pages with crayons for the kids, things that catch their attention and educate the kids.

- **Derelict/Abandon Vessels**

**Jamie Scudera**, said as of this month, you will see a reduction in the number of vessels on the sheet. Really happy to see especially with the lag, everything being shut down with Covid. 4 had been removed, 1 is ready to be removed, there is about 4 or 5 outstanding Roger is investigating. They are working on getting an app for boaters to be able to check and see if that vessel they see that looks abandoned is on this list or if they want to call it in.

**Commissioner Truex** said you can upload it to the public stuff on the County website with a picture of the vessel. Roger will get the Sheriff's department involved. **Ms. Scudera** said she knows the "Puffin" vessel which is considered at risk and has been on this list forever, the reason is unfortunately it goes in and out of compliance on a regular basis. What will happen, it will go out of compliance, and officer sites it, the owner brings it into compliance, citation is rescinded, time goes by, it goes back out of compliance. It's a yo-yo game with this vessel. The owner has been notified.

**Commissioner Truex** said when the law changed in 2019, funding being shifted, we will have a struggle. We are losing about \$70,000 for derelict vessel removal. We are working on trying to get a fix on that because certainly we made a lot of ground on this in the past few years and we don't want to lose that ground.

**Mr. Jurek** said in his home state, they had salvage companies go out after it was tagged by the State, and at their own expense, they would remove it and gut them out. He asked if there was any one around here like that?

**Ms. Scudera** said it is sticky because the State of Florida owns the waters. It usually is salvaged and taken to a landfill.

**Mr. Jurek** said the person would have to wait 30 days after it was tagged and apply for a title. It is like a mechanic lien on your car.

9. Correspondence and Communication  
None.

10. Public Comments

**David Ochab, SMSKA** said he wanted to make this group aware, part of this tiny island is in Sarasota County. Sarasota County has changed some of their variances to their coastal setback code. The issue is they also deleted a provision that stated the home built after 2008 cannot be eligible for shoreline protection. There is a huge issue in Sarasota County to have hard bottoms. This is the reason why North beach or Blind Pass beach included in the project because it would have costs more to mitigate shoreline than to put sand on the beach. If you take a boat ride and go past blind pass beach you can see how erosion would happen on our beaches because they were not part of the project. Number of owners do want to harden the shoreline in Sarasota County. They removed that provision so they can ask for a permit to do shoreline hardening. They also are allowing the changing from 100 cubic yards to 200 cubic yards for a temporary measure which is consistent with State standards. Sarasota County came up with a funding model for the residence. There is about 1800 in Charlotte County and only about 180 in Sarasota County. He said he wants you to be aware, regarding dogs, they need to be on a leash. Also picking up after dogs is a problem. He suggested the tabletops and coloring be at the restaurants. He also suggested getting a surveyor to be able to put up signs or stakes stating this is public land on the beach and this is private land on the beach. He said there is many areas of private beach and people don't know that. They would like to educate people what is private and public.

11. Comments by Administrative Staff or Consultants

None.

12. Member Comments

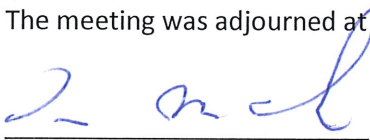
None.

14. Next Meeting

- The next Regular Meeting of the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee will be **Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, Room B-106 Port Charlotte unless otherwise announced.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.



Coty Keller, Chair

Don McCarroll Vice Chairman